



Informational Notes for First Responders and Officials

Bulletin #93 – March 16, 2006
SEMA's Homepage: sema.dps.mo.gov

Blunt Sends State Resources, Calls for Federal Assistance for Tornadoes

Missouri Governor Matt Blunt signed three executive orders to freeing state agency resource to help local governments, active the Missouri National Guard, and to direct Department of Natural Resources to grant debris waivers from the March 11-13 tornadoes, which swept across the state. He also requested joint federal/state/local damage assessment teams to collect information from impacted communities statewide. Ten deaths, almost 100 injuries, uninsured property damages to both citizens and local governments are directly attributed to the storm system. On March 13, he submitted an expedited request for Major Disaster Assistance Declaration to the federal government.

State Agencies providing assistance to local governments include: Missouri State Highway Patrol, Missouri State Water Patrol, Missouri Division of Fire Safety, Missouri National Guard, Missouri Department of Conservation, Missouri Department of Natural Resources, Missouri Department of Transportation, Missouri Department of Health & Senior Services, Missouri Department of Social Services, Missouri Department of Mental Health, and SEMA. Other organizations active in disaster response include American Red Cross, Salvation Army, AmeriCorps and many faith-based disaster response organizations.

Missouri Tornado Disaster Assistance Hotline Established

Due to the overwhelming need for assistance following the recent tornadoes in Missouri, a donations hotline has been established to help citizens impacted by the disaster, coordinate and distribute UNSOLICITED AND UNDESIGNATED donated goods, unsolicited volunteers, or direct monetary contributions to voluntary organizations in Missouri. This hotline will also provide information and referrals for disaster survivors needing assistance. **The donations number is 866-254-0140 and is open between 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.**

NIMS Compliance for Local Emergency Operation Plans

The National Incident Management System (NIMS) Integration Center and the Office of Grants and Training have developed planning guidance that integrates NIMS into the local emergency operations plan (LEOP). This document, "Integrating NIMS into Local/Tribal EOPs and SOPs" is available for your review on line at the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) website. The direct link to that document is: www.fema.gov/pdf/nims/eop-sop_local_online.pdf.

The State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) Area Coordinators are currently reviewing this document for NIMS compliance and are incorporating all required changes into the "Missouri All-Hazard Emergency Planning Guidance". During the FY 2006 LEOP reviews, Area Coordinators will be handing out documents that will assist the jurisdictions in bringing their LEOP to NIMS compliance.

These changes along with other NIMS issues and topics will be discussed by Mr. Chuck May, SEMA Planning and Disaster Recovery Branch Chief at the Spring SEMA/MEPA Conference, to be held from April 16 – 19, 2006, at Tan-Tar-A Resort, Osage Beach, Missouri. Look for Chuck's break out session during the spring conference and send a representative from your jurisdiction to get the latest information on all the NIMS compliance issues.

SEMA Submits \$81M FY06 DHS Grant Application

SEMA's Homeland Security Program Grant Manager, Tom Mohr, made sure Missouri's FY06 Department of Homeland Security Competitive Grant Application totaling \$81M was submitted by the March 2 deadline. Mohr noted that over 150 people help write the 10-14 decision items for Missouri's application.

Upcoming Area Coordinator Meetings

Here is a list of upcoming SEMA Area Coordinator meetings:

Area A:	10 a.m., June 1, 2006	Johnson County EOC, Warrensburg
Area B:	7 p.m. March 28, 2006	Quality Inn, Hannibal
Area D:	10 a.m., April 12, 2006	Taney County Airport, Hollister
Area F:	10 a.m., March 23, 2006	Gasconade County Courthouse, Hermann
Area I:	10:00 a.m., March 21	Eugene Northern Community Hall, Rolla

Citizen Corps Grant Applications Accepted Until March 22

The State of Missouri received an FY05 Department of Homeland Security \$200,000 grant to support local Citizen Corps Council activities. Missouri has 62 Citizen Corps Councils. The deadline to electronically submit Citizen Corps grant application is March 22, 2006.

While this grant will primarily be used to support existing Citizen Corps Councils, the State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) will accept applications to establish new councils. Information and the grant applications packet information is available on the SEMA web site at www.sema.dps.mo.gov

Fire Safety Schedules Training

The Missouri Division of Fire Safety has scheduled several courses and certification exams for the months of March, April and May. Please check the "calendar of events" on our website at <http://www.dfs.dps.mo.gov/> for a complete list. Contact the training and certification unit staff at 573-751-2930 for additional instructions and information.

Blunt Asks Open Burning Vigilance

In light of continued warm temperatures and dry conditions during the winter months across the state, Gov. Matt Blunt is calling on Missourians to adhere to local burn ordinances. State Fire Marshal Randy Cole is monitoring the conditions daily and said local burn ban ordinances are prudent, proactive steps to saving lives and property. Burn bans have already been enacted in many Missouri cities, counties and several fire protection districts.

Currently, state law reserves the authority to prohibit open burning activities to local jurisdictions. Since state aid and resources are used to assist out-of-control burns, the governor's office is working closely with the General Assembly to draft legislation allowing the governor to declare emergency drought conditions in affected areas and prohibit open burning.

Vernon, Morgan, Camden, Saline, Newton and Jasper counties have experienced wildfires, although fire service agencies are extremely concerned that the portion of Missouri from the Lake of the Ozarks southwest to the Missouri and Oklahoma state line will continue to experience drought conditions increasing the likelihood of wildfires.

Fire Departments Receive Firefighter Grants

Compiled from ODP Firefighter Grant Page

These Missouri Fire Departments received Firefighter Assistance grants: **Fire Prevention and Safety Grants** were awarded to: St. Clair FPD (\$8,600), and Wright City FPD (32,598).

How prepared are school districts in Missouri?

Reprinted From Missouri Safe Schools Newsletter, UMKC

The Missouri Safe School Coalition believes Missouri is ahead of other states, but there is still a lot of work to be done. The focus of the Advanced Safety Coordinator trainings this year is Emergency Management Planning. A key component of the training was the opportunity for school officials to meet State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) Area Coordinators: Bruce Fisher, Area A; Bob Bailey, Area B; Derek Lohner, Area C; Candy Adams, Area D; Mark Winkler, Area E; Gayla Weber, Area F; Terry Toler, Area G; Steve Cheavens, Area H; and John Hummel, Area I; and Mark Buxton, Center for Emergency Response and Terrorism, Department of Health and Senior Services, for participating in the regional training sessions.

MoDNR Conducts 20 Classes with Mo Rural Water Assn

By Deana L. Cash

Environmental Engineer/Security Coordinator, MoDNR Public Drinking Water Branch

The Missouri Department of Natural Resources Public Drinking Water branch will be hosting 20 one-day Training and Emergency Response and Tabletop Exercises between March 30-August 10, 2006. Information flyers will be mailed to all water systems, state and local health, emergency response organizations including fire, law enforcement and emergency management.

The set dates and locations are: March 30, Missouri Rural Water Association Office, Ashland; April 13, Extension Center, Troy; April 20, Hannibal, PWSD #1 office Ralls County; May 4, Community Center Carrollton; May 9, City Hall, Smithville; May 11, Public Safety Building, Cameron; May 17, Adair County PWSD #1 office, Kirksville; May 25, Mo DNR Regional office Lee's Summit; June 13, City Hall, Leeton; June 15, City Hall, St. Robert; June 22, City Hall, St. Clair; July 11, Teen Town Building, Fredericktown. DNR is still confirming the eight remaining sessions, which will be held in SE and SW Missouri during the July and August.

Division of Fire Safety Training and Certification Unit Headlines

By State Fire Marshal Randy Cole

Certification Testing offered at FFAM Convention in May: Certification testing for all levels will be offered on Friday, April 28, 2006 during the Fire Fighters Association of Missouri's Annual Convention in St. Joseph. Exams will be administered at 12:00noon. Pre-registration is required and the deadline for application is April 14, 2006. Applications and prerequisites for testing are available in the appropriate certification booklet located on the Division of Fire Safety's website at www.dfs.dps.mo.gov Also, please visit our "calendar of events" for additional regional test dates and locations as well as our course schedule.

New Basic Fire Fighter Course – New 2006 Version now available: A new, revised version of the 36-hour Missouri Division of Fire Safety Basic Fire Fighter program is now available. This course is designed to provide recruit fire fighters with some of the basic knowledge and skills necessary to help them function as members of a fire department. The course is designed as a hand-off program that can be taught in-house. Upon request, the course is provided to Missouri Fire Departments at no cost. For more information, contact the Division's Training and Certification Unit at 573-751-2930.

Rock Community FPD Citizen Corps/CERT Program Helps Launch Fire Corps & Teen CERT Program

**By Steve Orr, EMT-P, Citizen Corps/CERT Program Coordinator
Rock Community Fire Protection District, Arnold**

Volunteers from the Rock Community FDP Citizen Corps/CERT program helped launch Fire Corps at the 25th Annual Winter Fire School at the University of Missouri-Columbia. Westmont (IL) Deputy Chief David Weiss spoke about Fire Corps. The group talked with Missouri firefighters, departments with Citizen Corps Councils or CERT training programs, and others interested in the Fire Corps concept.

Rock Community Citizen Corps/CERT piloted a TEEN CERT program in February with the administration of Seckman High School in the Fox C-6 School District, Imperial (Jefferson County). Twelve high school students participated in all eight sessions of the "Teen CERT" training, culminating with the hands-on disaster practical exercise. The Seckman administration hopes to continue the TEEN CERT next school year.

Pasley Joins SEMA Training Section

Jim Pasley is the new special assistant assigned to training in the Operations Branch. Jim worked at Department of Transportation for 22 years. His last position at MoDOT was Corporate University Manager and was responsible for the statewide administration of all technical and managerial training for 6500 employees. He holds a BA from Columbia College and an MA from Lincoln University. He is a former chairman of the State Training Advisory Council and won the Governor's Award for Quality and Productivity in 2002 for his technical training program at MoDOT. For the past 15 years, Jim has taught 300 and 400 level evening courses for Columbia College. In 1992 and 1996, he was named Professor of the Year at Columbia College. Jim has also taught courses for the Missouri National Guard through Vincennes University.

Department of Homeland Security Celebrates 3rd Birthday